

Taylor Miller

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## **The Last Lecture**

Randy Pausch's Last Lecture is astoundingly moving for a piece that has such a simple premise. The entire talk is incredibly relatable. Its message is made clear through the simple, genuine narrative delivered by Pausch. Despite having achieved monumental goals in his life, he truly demonstrates just how elementary the methodology of life needs to be. Pausch's dedication and ambition are commendable, of course. However, his distillation of the complexities of life is what I found to be the most virtuous piece of his talk. His insight into the matter is as uncomplicated as 'just be; just live,' but carries the significance of a philosophical cornerstone. I'm reminded of a concept from Zen Buddhism called Shoshin, or Beginner's Mind. Pausch doesn't seem to reference this at any point, but I believe the beauty of this talk can be summed up by this concept. The Beginner's mind is focused, open, ready, and unabated. It is to live life for the sake of living - the 'karma will take care of itself.' This is something I've taken refuge in before, and probably should more often if Randy Pausch is to be believed.